

Amendments to the claims:

1. (currently amended) A golf bag comprising:

a body defining a generally tubular compartment for containing golf clubs, said compartment having an open top end and a closed bottom end with a spine extending between

the open top end and the closed bottom end;

a throat structure defining the open top end of said compartment;

a bottom assembly defining the closed bottom end of said compartment;

an elongated stay located in a longitudinal position inside said body and arranged
substantially parallel to said spine, said stay having an upper end engaged with said throat
structure and a lower end disposed in a pocket formed between said bottom assembly and said
body; and

an openable and closable access port located in said body between said throat structure and
said bottom assembly for providing access through said body to said compartment, said stay and
said pocket in order to facilitate repairs to said stay and said pocket and in order to retrieve
articles that may have fallen into said compartment through said throat structure.

2. (original) The golf bag of claim 1, wherein said openable and closable access port
comprises a zipper closure extending longitudinally in said body.

3. (original) The golf bag of claim 2, wherein said access port is opened by opening said
zipper closure and closed by closing said zipper closure.

4. (original) The golf bag of claim 1, further comprising a sleeve inside said body through which said stay extends and wherein said access port also provides access through said body to said sleeve.

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)